

efforts to rapidly identify and track biological threats.

The Bush Administration has repeatedly shown a lack of commitment to improving relations abroad. The report seeks to utilize diplomacy by enhancing the International Arab and Muslim Youth Opportunity Fund and establishing a Middle East Foundation that will promote economic opportunities, education reform, human rights, and democracy in the Middle East. We now have an opportunity to begin to rebuild relations and move in a proactive direction.

I am convinced that this bill ensures that we are better prepared to protect our families, our homes, and our Nation against any and all terrorist threats. So, I am honored to support this legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROBERT SWENSON

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2007*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor COL Robert Swenson, who is retiring from his post as Commander at the Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania in August. Colonel Swenson has spent two years at Letterkenny, managing the multi-million dollar facility and overseeing the maintenance and base operation missions of the depot.

Prior to acting as Commander of Letterkenny Army Depot, Colonel Swenson served in the Army as a platoon leader in Germany, a COSCOM Ammunition Officer during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and commanded the 498th Corps Support Battalion in Seoul, South Korea. He was later assigned to be Army Secretary for Joint and Defense Affairs in the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army. He then worked as the Special Assistant to the Commanding General Army Materiel Command prior to taking the post of Commander at Letterkenny. Colonel Swenson has earned numerous awards throughout his career, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, just to name a few.

During his tenure at Letterkenny, Colonel Swenson demonstrated his leadership through the undertaking of numerous projects, by which he made important improvements to depot operations and efficiency. Colonel Swenson restructured the LEAN team and implemented his LEAN Manufacturing program, which was instrumental in Letterkenny's receipt of Army Environmental Award.

Colonel Swenson's accomplishments identify him as an Army officer of the highest caliber and reflect great credit upon himself, the Letterkenny Army Depot, and the U.S. Army. I, along with the employees at Letterkenny, would like to thank COL Robert Swenson for all of his leadership and dedication as Commander.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

#### HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2007*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleagues in recognizing the founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's 50th anniversary. I commend Congressman RUSH in reserving this time to pay homage to this great American institution.

When this organization held its first annual convention in Montgomery, AL, five decades ago this August, I was just a young boy understanding the strategy of the nonviolent approach to hate, segregation, and inequality that was and still is prevalent today in America's society.

As a former prosecutor and County Executive, I have worked very hard to ensure the organization's commitment to nonviolent action to achieve social, economic, and political justice currently are focused on issues such as racial profiling, police brutality, hate crimes, and discrimination.

Today, the Southern Christian Leadership is a nationwide organization that is made up of chapters and affiliates with programs that affect the lives of all Americans.

Its sphere of influence and interests has become international in scope because the battle for human rights is one that transcends national boundaries.

Madam Speaker, I believe by recognizing organizations that have given so much to this country is sending a clear message to the American people that the legacy of its past and future presidents will never be forgotten.

#### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1, IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

#### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 27, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the 9/11 Conference Report, which will go a long way toward protecting this Nation from the ever-present threat of terrorism and safeguarding our families from future attacks.

The 9/11 Commission gave us a non-partisan blueprint for how to wage and win the global war on terrorism. This conference report helps us meet the unresolved challenges we have faced over the past 3 years since the commission issued its recommendations by expanding cargo screening at our ports, making air travel safer, and taking many other important steps to protect America from terrorism.

I am proud to represent many of the brave first responders who answered the call on September 11, 2001. I believe that this conference report honors the memory of the victims and rescue personnel who fell on that tragic day.

Mr. Speaker, I also firmly believe this legislation represents the single most important

measure we can take to prevent future terrorist attacks. I commend the leadership and all of my colleagues who helped negotiate this agreement. Our Nation will be safer from terrorism as will future generations of Americans.

#### IN CELEBRATION OF THE OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASEBALL TEAM, NCAA COLLEGE WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS

#### HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2007*

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Oregon State University baseball team on winning their second-straight NCAA College World Series championship. OSU is the first team since 1997 to win back-to-back College World Series championships.

The Beavers capped off their 49–18 winning season with a “no-nonsense” approach to the championship games in Omaha, Nebraska. The Beavers solidly won the first two games in the final series against the University of North Carolina Tar Heels, wasting no time to claim their consecutive championship trophy.

Congratulations to Head Coach Pat Casey and the Oregon State Beavers on this historic achievement.

#### HONORING JOANN DIGENNARO, PRESIDENT, CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOR HER PHILANTHROPIC WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BULGARIA AND THE STS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS FOUNDATION

#### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2007*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joann DiGennaro, president of the Center for Excellence in Education, for her hard work and dedication.

As an honorary member of the Board of Trustees for the Center for Excellence in Education, I have witnessed firsthand the important work that Joann has undertaken in her role as President of the Center, and I could not be more impressed by her years of effort and accomplishment.

Recognizing a need to make an essential investment in our national and global future, Joann founded the Center for Excellence in Education 1983 along with the late ADM H.G. Rickover, the father of the nuclear navy and discoverer of many civilian uses of nuclear power. Since its establishment the Center has a successful history of contributing to the scientific leadership of this country. The Center's commendable mission is to nurture young scholars to careers of excellence in science and technology through providing cost-free programs, such as the Research Science Institute (RSI) and the USA Biology Olympiad (USABO), to its student scholars.

Joann is one of the special few in our world who are willing to take dramatic steps to address the current and future needs of our Nation, and she has striven to provide countless